

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, Claims 1-9 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 10 and 11 have been rewritten into independent form. Claim 12 has been amended to depend from Claim 10. New Claims 17-21 have been added. Claim 17 corresponds to Claim 12, but depend from Claim 11. Claims 18-21 correspond to Claims 13-16, respectively, but depend from Claim 17. No new matter has been added, and entry of the Amendment as canceling claims and to place the present application in condition for allowance is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the Amendment, Claims 10-21 will be pending.

In paragraph No. 3 of the Action, Claims 1-9 and 12-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Uckert et al (US 2004/0185302).

In paragraph No. 7 of the Action, Claims 1-6, 9 and 12-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Miller et al (US 6,107,452) in view of Bandodakar et al (Synthesis, vol. 9, pp. 843-844, 1990).

In paragraph No. 19 of the Action, Claims 14-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Miller et al in view of Bandodakar et al, and further in view of Noguchi et al (US 2002/0177687).

In paragraph No. 22 of the Action, Claims 14-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Uckert et al, and further in view of Noguchi et al.

As noted, Claims 1-9 have been cancelled and Claim 12 has been amended to depend from Claim 10. Claim 10 is not subject to any of the above four rejections. Claims 13-16 depend from Claim 12. Accordingly, withdrawal of the above four rejections of Claims 12-16 is respectfully requested.

In paragraph No. 16 of the Action, Claims 7-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Miller et al in view of Bandodakar et al, and further in view of Iyer et al (Tetrahedron Letters, vol. 38, No. 49, pp. 8533-8536, 1997).

As noted, Claims 7-8 have been cancelled, rendering this rejection moot.

In paragraph No. 25 of the Action, Claims 10-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Miller et al in view of Bandodakar et al, and further in view of Bozano et al (Journal of Applied Physics, vol. 94, No. 5, pp. 3061-3068, 2003).

Applicant submits that this rejection should be withdrawn because Miller et al, Bandodakar et al and Bozano et al do not disclose or render obvious the present invention, either alone or in combination.

Miller et al discloses polymer materials where the terminal of the polymer is functionalized by an unsaturated hydrocarbon group free from an aromatic ring having the formula $-(CH_2)_m-CH=CH_2$ (m is an integer of 1-12) as illustrated at column 7, lines 27-28 and 46-47.

The object of the invention of Miller et al is to provide a novel method for synthesizing an oligomer that may be crosslinked under mild reaction conditions to prepare an insoluble electroreactive polymer (column 1, lines 56-59).

However, Miller et al is silent on polymer material where the unsaturated hydrocarbon group free from an aromatic ring is directly coupled to the repeating unit, as acknowledged by the Examiner. Further, Miller et al does not teach or suggest an polymer having an unsaturated hydrocarbon group free of aromatic ring selected from the group consisting of an acyclic hydrocarbon group containing unsaturated bond and being substituted by alicyclic hydrocarbon group and an alicyclic hydrocarbon group containing unsaturated bond and being optionally

substituted by acyclic hydrocarbon group as required by the present claims. Applicant notes that these groups essentially contain alicyclic hydrocarbon group.

As disclosed in the specification on page 70, lines 6-7, the polymer of the present invention is resistible to electrolytic oxidation and/or reduction. Miller et al does not teach or suggest such an effect. Therefore, the present invention is not obvious over Miller et al.

The Examiner states that the crosslinking chemistry requires only an unsaturated C=C bond for crosslinking and a cyclic hydrocarbon could be predicted to undergo the same crosslinking chemistry.

However, a person skilled in the art knows that whether or not crosslinking may occur to a compound depends not on the partial structure, for example, unsaturated C=C bond, of the compound, but on the whole structure of the compound.

In response to Applicant's arguments that the polymer of the present invention is resistible to electrolytic oxidation and/or reduction, the Examiner cites *In re Dillon* and *In re Tomlinson* and states that "obviousness under 103 is not negated because the motivation to arrive at the claimed invention as disclosed by the prior art does not agree with appellant's motivation."

However, Applicant is relying upon the unexpectedly superior results provided by the present invention to establish the patentability of the present invention over the cited references.

Bandodakar et al is cited as teaching the synthesis of 1-bromo-1,5-cyclooctadiene.

Bonzano et al discloses electroluminescent devices containing the same polymers using the same polymers described by Miller. However, Bozano et al does not teach or suggest electroluminescent devices containing the polymer of the present invention. Of course, Bozano et al does not teach or suggest the composition of present Claim 10 or 11 comprising the polymers of the present invention.

That is, Bandodakar et al and Bozano et al do not make up for the deficiencies of Miller et al or imply the effect of the present invention as discussed above.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of Claims 10-11 based on Miller et al in view of Bandodakar et al, and further in view of Bozano et al are respectfully requested.

Claims 17-21 are patentable over the cited references for substantially the same reasons that Claims 10-16 are patentable over the cited references, as discussed above.

Allowance is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

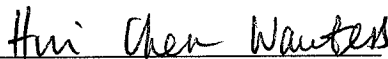
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